

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2255

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJ: MARCOS APPOINTS NEW GOVERNOR OF CEBU PROVINCE

1. ON FEB 18 MALACANANG ANNOUNCED PRESIDENT MARCOS HAD APPOINTED FORMER REPRESENTATIVE EDUARDO GULLAS OF CEBU AS GOVERNOR OF CEBU PROVINCE VICE INCUMBENT OSMUNDO RAMA. APPOINTMENT WAS DATED JAN 15 BUT GULLAS WILL NOT ASSUME OFFICE UNTIL FEB 21. PRESS REPORTS GULLAS SENT MARCOS TELEGRAM CONFIRMING HIS ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT SAYING: "WITH GREAT HUMILITY, I AM ACCEPTING THE 'DRAFT' AS GOVERNOR."

2. GULLAS, A NACIONALISTA, WAS ELECTED CONGRESSMAN FOR THIRD DISTRICT OF CEBU PROVINCE IN 1969. BORN IN 1930; HIS PARENTS OWN UNIVERSITY OF THE VISAYAS. HE IS WEALTHY LAWYER, SPORTS ENTHUSIAST AND UNTIL NEW APPOINTMENT SERVED AS MEMBER OF THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION. HE HAS REPUTATION AS MARCOS LOYALIST AND IS REPUTEDLY POLITICAL PROTEGE (AND PERHAPS RELATIVE) OF RAMON DURANO, MARCOS' CRONY AND PERENNIAL ADVERSARY OF SERGIO OSMENA, JR., CEBU'S OLD SOCIETY BOSS.

3. COMMENT: BOTH EMBOFF AND AMCONSUL CEBU HAS HEARD OF GULLAS' PROSPECTIVE APPOINTMENT SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. THIS IS MARCOS' FIRST MAJOR APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL OFFICIAL WHOSE TERMS HE PROLONGED UNTIL THE END OF MARCH. CHAR-
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ACTERISTICALLY HE HAS PUT PREMIUM ON LOYALTY IN MAKING

APPOINTMENT. AMCONSUL CEBU WILL BE COMMENTING FURTHER
ON GOVERNOR GULLAS IN SUBSEQUENT AIRGRAM.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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